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To: EIS_Office@ymp.gov
cc:
Subject: Yucca Mountain

LSN: Relevant - Not Privileged
User Filed as: Exc/AdminMgmt-14-4/QA:N/A

To Whom It May Concern,

I am sad that the Yucca Mountain has been singled out as the sole option for our country's nuclear waste. This seems an ill-advised proposal; even by its proponents' projections can only result in massive citizen exposure to this extremely hazardous material. Yucca Mountain has been used by the Western Shoshone as a site for rituals and gathering herbs for centuries. Not only would the nuclear waste deem the mountain off-limits to tribal members, it risks exposing the largest dairy herd in Nevada to high levels of radiation.

Clearly inaction would be a crime, however prematurely moving the waste from its sites of origin to a nexus of fault lines sounds hasty. While I'm not a nuclear engineer, I understand that it is in the first two hundred years that the nuclear waste is most active. Hardened On-Site Storage appears a better option for the first two centuries for the receptacles until the material is more stable.

Consider the huge public and local government opposition to the plan for Yucca Mountain. However there is significant scientific evidence as well to buttress the public opinion. The area near Yucca Mountain has proven to be seismically active, and a resulting breach in storage containers is estimated to reach groundwater in less than 400 years.

Please reconsider the Yucca Mountain plan. Instead support a comprehensive plan that better acknowledges the geological structure of the storage site, the traditions of local cultures, and incorporates HOSS containers and avoids transporting fully active waste.

Thank you for reading and considering my concerns.

Sincerely,

Nathanael Secor

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